

VICTORY INTO DEFEAT

2 Sam 18:5-19:8

2 Samuel 18:5-8 Absalom's men lost lives in woods, pits, cliffs, holes, etc.

2 Samuel 18:9 Where were his friends?

No where to be found.

A friend can laugh you into hell

Ps 1:1-3 happiest man on earth

2 Samuel 18:10-17 Absalom's men fled...not David's men.

2 Sam 18:18-21 Cushie an Ethiopian – black man.

Ahimaaz--son of high priest...considered by Joab to be "his son."

Flashbacks to time when Amalekite ...

2 Sam 18:22-23 Cushie take heat off second messenger.

2 Sam 18:24 David sitting in special chamber above and between gates.

2 Sam 18:25 If he is alone, he has news to give us.

2 Sam 18:26-30 When Joab told me to come, ... lot of commotion.

I didn't know what was happening.

2 Sam 18:31 Great news! God rescued you.

What would be a good response?

2 Sam 18:32 *And the king said unto Cushie, Is the young man Absalom safe?*

Doesn't ask about battle.

Or about his men.

Cushie replied, *May all of your enemies be as that young man is!*

2 Sam 18:33 Intense emotion...crying out...weeping...

Believers Study Bible: ... *His grief in light of Absalom's fate reduced the victory to futility.* .

Why such grief? David's deep seated guilt.

Observations of David:

1. Put glory of God on lower level than well-being of son.
2. Open response was an offense to people.
3. Perceived to be against justice of nation in preferring own affections over well-being of nation.
4. Appears ungrateful for sacrifice by his men.

Matt Hen: *What we over-loved we are apt to over-grieve for: in each affection, therefore, it is wisdom to have rule over our own spirits and to keep a strict guard upon ourselves when that is removed from us which was very dear to us. Losers think they may have leave to speak; but little said is soon amended. The penitent*

patient sufferer sitteth alone and keepeth silence (Lam. 3:28), or rather, with Job, says, Blessed be the name of the Lord.

2 Samuel 19:1-3 *By stealth*: covertly, secretly; as if cowards

Why men sneaking back into city?

Because their king not happy about outcome.

He doesn't seem to care that they won battle and restored leadership

2 Samuel 19:4-6 David turned victory into defeat.

Men confused and discouraged.

See no gratefulness

David seems to be weeping and mourning because they had won

More concerned about losing rebellious son than

Lessons! Turning victory into defeat.

1. Placed personal preferences above Sin. 18: 2-4

2. Placed his personal feelings over the Grace of God. 18: 9-33

3. Focused on himself rather than kingdom 19:1-8

SO WHAT? How do we turn victory into defeat?

1. By placing personal preferences above Sin.

2. By placing our personal feelings over the Grace of God.

3. By focusing on ourselves and not the glory of God

Joab said it well: *You are acting as if love enemies and hate friends*